Department of Real Estate 320 West Fourth St. #350 Los Angeles, CA 90013 (213) 576-6982

SEP 2 9 2010
DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

By

BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF REAL ESTATE

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

* * * *

o:)	No. H-36827 LA
	HELP MODIFY NOW and)	
	HELP MODIFY NOW DEBT SOLUTIONS INC.)	ORDER TO DESIST
)	AND REFRAIN
)	
)	(B&P Code Section 10086)
)	

The Real Estate Commissioner of the State of California ("Commissioner") has caused an investigation to be made of the activities of HELP MODIFY NOW, a Nevada corporation doing business in California, and HELP MODIFY NOW DEBT SOLUTIONS INC. Based on that investigation, the Commissioner has determined that HELP MODIFY NOW and HELP MODIFY NOW DEBT SOLUTIONS INC., have engaged in, are engaging in, or are attempting to engage in, acts or practices constituting violations of the California Business and Professions Code ("Code"). Based on that investigation, the Commissioner hereby issues the following Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Desist and Refrain Order under the authority of Section 10086 of the Code.

 $\parallel ///$

Whenever acts referred to below are attributed to HELP MODIFY NOW and/or HELP MODIFY NOW DEBT SOLUTIONS INC., those acts are alleged to have been done by said parties, and/or by its officers, directors, employees, agents, affiliates and real estate licensees employed by or associated with that party who at all times mentioned were engaged in the furtherance of its business or operations and were acting within the course and scope of their authority and employment.

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. HELP MODIFY NOW, dba Help Modify Now, Inc. and dba Help Modify Now Corp. ("HMN") is not now and has never been licensed by the Department of Real Estate of the State of California ("Department") as a real estate broker. HMN is a Nevada corporation doing business in California as a foreign corporation. HMN's main corporate offices are located at 1117 Desert Lane, Suite 2066, Las Vegas, Nevada, 89102. HMN maintains offices at 301 Shipyard Way, Suite B, Newport Beach, CA 92663, out of which it does business in California. Between on or before October 24, 2008 and continuing through November 9, 2009, Anita Pieratt was the designated agent for service of process in California.
- 2. Chas F. Bain ("Bain") is not now and has never been licensed by the Department as a real estate broker. Bain is the Chief Executive Officer and President of HMN.
- 3. HELP MODIFY NOW DEBT SOLUTIONS INC., dba Help Modify Now (HMNDSI) is not now and has never been licensed in California as a real estate broker. HMNDSI is a California corporation. HMNDSI's principal executive and business offices are located at 4665 MacArthur Court #100, Newport Beach, CA 92660. Between on or before November 5, 2008 and continuing through November 9, 2009, Anita Pieratt was the designated agent for service of process in California.

5. All further references to the parties listed in Paragraphs 1 through 4 above, include those parties and entities themselves, as well as the officers, agents and employees of the parties listed in Paragraphs 1 through 4 above.

6. At all times relevant herein, the parties and entities listed in Paragraphs 1 through 4 above engaged in the business of, acted in the capacity of, advertised or assumed to act as real estate brokers in the State of California within the meaning of Code Sections 10131(d) and 10131.2. Their activities included soliciting borrowers or lenders for and/or negotiating loans, collecting payments and/or performing services for borrowers or lenders in connection with loans secured by liens on real property. Their activities also included claiming, demanding, charging, receiving, collecting or contracting for the collection of an advance fee within the meaning of Code Sections 10026 and 10085.

7. Beginning at a time no later than August 10, 2008, and continuing to the present time, HMN and HMNDSI solicited borrowers for loan modification and related financial services through telemarketing and one or more websites in various print and electronic media, including websites located at: www.helpmodifynow.com. Those advertisements solicited, and continue to solicit, borrowers, offering loan modification services in exchange for payment of advance fees.

Unlicensed Activities

8. HMN and HMNDSI, doing business as "Help Modify Now," were not licensed by the Department in any capacity, as corporate real estate brokers, nor as registered "dbas" of a corporate real estate broker at any time during the period between August 1, 2008, and the

2.7

б

present. HMN and HMNDSI's presidents and chief executive officers, Chas F. Bain and Larry Gunter, were not licensed by the Department in any capacity during the period between August 1, 2008 and the present.

9. Beginning on or before August 10, 2008, and continuing through on or after May 1, 2009, HMN and HMNDSI, doing business as "Help Modify Now, Inc.," advertised, solicited and entered into loan modification agreements with borrowers Dorothy F. and Sherry N. In addition, HMN and HMNDSI, doing business as "Help Modify Now, Inc.," collected advance fees of \$3,495.00 each from the borrowers and agreed to negotiate with lenders on their behalf to reduce or renegotiate the terms of home loans. HMN and HMNDSI did not in fact perform the promised activities and did not refund or provide an accounting for the advance fees collected. HMN and HMNDSI were not licensed by the Department, and therefore were unlawfully engaging in activities requiring a real estate license.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The conduct, acts and/or omissions of HELP MODIFY NOW and HELP MODIFY NOW DEBT SOLUTIONS INC., in advertising, soliciting, and negotiating on behalf of borrowers when they were not licensed by the Department is in violation of Code Section 10130.

///

///

22 /

24 //

25 /

26 | /

DESIST AND REFRAIN ORDER

Based on the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law stated herein, it is hereby ordered that HELP MODIFY NOW, and HELP MODIFY NOW DEBT SOLUTIONS INC., whether doing business under your own names, or any other names, or any fictitious names, ARE HEREBY ORDERED to immediately desist and refrain from performing any acts within the State of California for which a real estate broker license is required. In particular, each of them is ORDERED TO DESIST AND REFRAIN from:

- (i) charging, demanding, claiming, collecting and/or receiving advance fees, as that term is defined in Section 10026 of the Code, in any form, and under any conditions, with respect to the performance of loan modifications or any other form of mortgage loan forbearance service in connection with loans on residential property containing four or fewer dwelling units; and
- (ii) charging, demanding, claiming, collecting and/or receiving advance fees, as that term is defined in Section 10026 of the Code, for any other real estate related services offered by them to others.

Notice: Business and Professions Code Section 10139 provides that "Any person acting as a real estate broker or real estate salesperson without a license or who advertises using words indicating that he or she is a real estate broker without being so licensed shall be guilty of a public offense punishable by a fine not exceeding twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000), or by imprisonment in the county jail for a term not to exceed six months, or by both fine and imprisonment; or if a corporation, be punished by a fine not exceeding sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000)."

- 5 -

1.3

1.8

2.7

cc:

Help Modify Now Debt Solutions Inc. 4665 MacArthur Court, #100 Newport Beach, CA 92660

Larry Gunter Help Modify Now Debt Solutions Inc. 4665 MacArthur Court #100 Newport Beach, CA 92660

Help Modify Now 1117 Desert Lane, Suite 2055 Las Vegas, Nevada 89102

Chas F. Bain Help Modify Now 1117 Desert Lane, Suite 2055 Las Vegas, Nevada 89102